

Message Text

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SUBJECT: HUA KUO-FENG ROLE IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

REF: STATE 039848

1. OUR CONCLUSION THAT HUA HAS HAD RESPONSIBILITY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HAS TWO BASES. ACCORDING TO CONGEN RECORDS, HUA'S EARLIEST RESPONSIBILITY AS IN HUNAN INCLUDED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL WORK. HE WAS DESIGNATED AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE JUNAN PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC WORK ON MAY 17 1958, AND BECAME VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEWLY FORMED HUNAN PROVINCIAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION JANUARY 17, 1975 (SECONDLY, OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT HE WAS THE ONLY, RPT ONLY, POLITBURO MEMBER TO MEET FOREIGN SCIENTIFIC DELEGATIONS IN THE LAST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1975, DURING WHICH TIME HE MET AT LEAST SIX SUCH DELEGATION. (HE HAD A SIMILAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVE ROLE IN 1974.) WHILE THESE INDICATIONS ARE NOT CONCLUSIVE WE FEEL THEY ESTABLISH A PRESUMPTION OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES OVER THIS FIELD, OR AT LEAST A PROMINENT VOICE ON SCIENTIFIC POLICY WITHIN THE POLITBURO.

2. IMPLICATIONS OF THE BROADENING OF THE DEBATE TO INCLUDE SCIENCE ABOUT THE TIME OF HUA'S OWN ELEVATION ARE MORE DIFFICULT TO ASSESS. WE WOULD NOTE FIRST THAT THIS BROADENING

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WAS TOUCHED OFF BY FEBRUARY RED FLAG LEAD ARTICLE, WHICH WAS

PROBABLY ALREADY WRITTEN BY THE TIME HUA WAS PICKED AS ACTING PRIMER (PRESUMABLY LAST TEN DAYS OF JANUARY). ALSO, THE ATTACK ON SCIENTISTS WAS FORESHADOWED BY THE DECEMBER RED FLAG ARTICLE WHICH LAUNCHED THE ENTIRE EDUCATION DEBATE (SEE HONG KONG 1312 AND 75 HONG KONG 14429). THUS WE NEED NOT ASSUME THAT SCIENCE DEBATE WAS RESPONSE TO HUA'S PROMOTION.

3. NEVERTHELESS, THE ATTACK ON REVISIONIST TRENDS IN SCIENCE HAS CONTINUED AND INDEED HAS NOW SPREAD TO INCLUDE THE ECONOMY ANOTHER AREA WHERE HUA IS PRESUMED TO HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES. WITH THE PUBLICATION OF THE FEBRUARY 6 PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE, HOWEVER, THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THESE REVISIONIST TRENDS HAS QUITE CLEARLY BEEN LAID AT THE DOOR OF "CAPITALIST ROADERS" WHO FOLLOWED LIU SHAO-CHI'S LINE IN PRE-CULTURAL REVOLUTION DAYS AND HAVE REFUSED TO REPENT. THIS TYPE OF CHARGE, OBVIOUSLY AIMED AT ENG HSIAO-PING AND FELLOW REHABILITEES, WOULD SEEM TO IMPLICATE HUA ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT HE HAS FOLLOWED POLICIES ESSENTIALLY LAID DOWN BY TENG.

4. WE thus do not see the campaign as being directed at Hua but feel that if it continues to develop into a contest between those who stress economic development and those who subordinate this to class struggle, Hua is likely to be found on the side of the developers.
CROSS

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